

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (canceled)
2. (currently amended): A method comprising digital watermarking an image with a payload that represents at least two position coordinates for a point or area depicted within the image, wherein ~~The method of claim 1 in which~~ the payload additionally represents at least one of the following:
  - (a) the direction of a vector extending from said image to a known compass point;
  - (b) a scale datum, relating a span of pixels in the image to a span of terrain depicted in the image;
  - (c) a polynomial tending to characterize an apparent warp of the image.
3. (original): The method of claim 2 in which the payload represents the direction of a vector extending from said image to a known compass point.
4. (original): The method of claim 2 in which the payload represents a scale datum, relating a span of pixels in the image to a span of terrain depicted in the image.
5. (original): The method of claim 2 in which the payload represents a polynomial tending to characterize an apparent warp of the image.

6. (currently amended): The method of claim 5 ~~[[1]]~~ in which said position coordinates include latitude and longitude.

7. (original): A method comprising digitally watermarking an image with a payload that includes first and second portions, said watermarking using a tiled approach, wherein uniformly-sized patches of the image are processed in accordance with the payload, wherein the first portion is unchanging across all of said tiles, but the second portion changes between tiles, so that position information about each tile can be determined therefrom.

8. (original): A method comprising digitally watermarking different regions of an image with different watermark payload data, wherein a first region of the image is watermarked with payload data relating to an elevation of terrain depicted in said first region, and a second region of the image is watermarked with payload data relating to an elevation of terrain depicted in said second region.

9. (original): The method of claim 8 wherein both of said first and second regions are watermarked with payload data that represents latitude and longitude of a point depicted within said image.

10. (new): A method comprising:

receiving an image; and

encoding the image with a digital watermark, wherein the digital watermark comprises a plural-bit payload including first and second portions, wherein multiple instances of the digital watermark are encoded in the image with the first portion remaining unchanged in each instance, but the second portion changes between instances so that position information of corresponding image areas can be determined there from.

11. (new): A method to determine geo-locations of two or more areas depicted in an image, wherein the image comprises a digital watermark including a plural-bit payload embedded therein, said method comprising:

analyzing the image or data corresponding to the image to recover the plural-bit payload;

with reference to at least the plural-bit payload, determining a geo-location of a first area depicted in the image; and

determining a geo-location of a second area depicted in the image by a relative position of the second area to the first area or to the first geo-location.